# Big Data Analysis (MA60306) 

Bibhas Adhikari

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Lecture 25
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## Sampling methods

Metropolis Hastings algorithm ${ }^{1}$
${ }^{1}$ Murphy, K.P., 2012. Machine learning: a probabilistic perspective. $\mathrm{MIT}_{\text {press }}$ р

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Suppose the current state is $\mathbf{x}_{t}$ and the next step is $\mathbf{x}_{t+1}$ with probability $g\left(\mathbf{x}_{t+1} \mid \mathbf{x}_{t}\right), g(\mathbf{x})$ is the proposal distribution
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A commonly used $g\left(\mathbf{x}_{t+1} \mid \mathbf{x}_{t}\right)=\mathcal{N}\left(\mathbf{x}_{t+1} \mid \mathbf{x}_{t}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}\right)$ i.e. a Gaussian distribution 'centered' on the current state, also called random walk Metropolis algorithm

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If we choose the proposal independent of the old state i.e. if we set $g\left(\mathbf{x}_{t+1} \mid \mathbf{x}_{t}\right)=g\left(\mathbf{x}_{t+1}\right)$ then it is called independence sampler

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Question How to choose $\boldsymbol{\Sigma}$ and what is the acceptance probability?
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## Sampling methods

Recall Our original problem was sampling from a probability distribution

$$
p(\mathbf{x})=\frac{f(\mathbf{x})}{N C}
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where the normalizing constant $N C$ is hard to compute, and the goal was to sample from a known suitable distribution which is easy to simulate.

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Suppose NC is hard to compute (the method is obviously valid when we are able to compute $N C$ )

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that is

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\frac{f\left(\mathbf{x}_{i}\right)}{N C} g\left(\mathbf{x}_{j} \mid \mathbf{x}_{i}\right) a\left(\mathbf{x}_{i} \rightarrow \mathbf{x}_{j}\right)=\frac{f\left(\mathbf{x}_{j}\right)}{N C} g\left(\mathbf{x}_{i} \mid \mathbf{x}_{j}\right) a\left(\mathbf{x}_{j} \rightarrow \mathbf{x}_{i}\right)
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Next task is to decide the values of the accept probabilities from this equation

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Two cases arise:
Case I. $\frac{f\left(\mathbf{x}_{j}\right)}{f\left(\mathbf{x}_{i}\right)} \cdot \frac{g\left(\mathbf{x}_{i} \mid \mathbf{x}_{j}\right)}{g\left(\mathbf{x}_{j} \mid \mathbf{x}_{i}\right)}<1$

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If the proposal distribution is NOT symmetric (asymmetric) i.e. $g(\mathbf{x} \mid \mathbf{y}) \neq g(\mathbf{y} \mid \mathbf{x})$ then define

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Question What about the convergence? What about the accuracy?

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Gibbs Sampling

## Sampling methods

Convergence and error bounds Since $\pi$ is a stationary distribution, for any initial distribution $\mu$ and for any state $s_{i} \in S, P_{\mu}\left(X_{t}=s_{i}\right) \rightarrow \pi_{i}$ as $t \rightarrow \infty$.

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In practice, the true distribution of $X_{t}$ should closely approximate the target density $\pi$ according to some measure
Then another question is: what parameter of the transition matrix controls the speed of the convergence

## Sampling methods

Total variation metric: If $f, g$ are absolutely continuous probability distributions on $\mathbb{R}^{d}, d \geq 1$ then

$$
\rho(f, g)=\frac{1}{2} \int|f(\mathbf{x})-g(\mathbf{x})| d \mathbf{x}
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and for pmfs,

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(the order matters)
Chi-square distance: suppose $f, g$ have common support $S$, then

$$
\chi^{2}(f, g)=\sqrt{\int_{S} \frac{(f-g)^{2}}{g}}
$$

## Sampling methods

Some more: Kolmogorov Metric, Hellinger Metric, Levy-Prokhorov Metric, Kullback-Leibler (KL) Distance, Wasserstein Distance, Bhattacharya Affinity, Rao's Geodesic Distances

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Question Are they metrics?

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Question Are they metrics?
Recall: Suppose $\pi$ is the statonary distribution corresponding to a transition matrix $P$ with the initial distribution $\mu$. Then for the distribution of $X_{t}$ for some fixed $t$, the ith entry of $\mu^{(t)}\left(=\mu P^{t}\right)$ is

$$
P_{\mu}\left(X_{t}=i\right)=\sum_{j \in S} P\left(X_{0}=j\right)\left[P^{t}\right]_{j i}=\sum_{j \in S} \mu_{k} p_{j i}^{(t)}
$$

where $p_{j i}^{(t)}=\left[P^{t}\right]_{j i}$.

## Sampling methods

The total variation distance between $\mu^{(t)}$ and the stationary distribution $\pi$ with initial distribution $\mu$ is given by

$$
\begin{aligned}
\rho\left(\mu^{(t)}, \pi\right) & =\sup _{A \subseteq S}\left|P_{\mu^{(t)}}(A)-P_{\pi}(A)\right| \\
& =\sup _{A}\left|\sum_{i \in A} \sum_{j \in S} \mu_{j} p_{j i}^{(t)}-\sum_{i \in A} \pi_{i}\right|
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Separation distance:

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D\left(\mu^{(t)}, \pi\right)=\sup _{i \in S}\left(1-\frac{P_{\mu}\left(X_{t}=i\right)}{\pi_{i}}\right)
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## Sampling methods

Chi-square distance:

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\chi^{2}\left(\mu^{(t)}, \pi\right)=\sum_{i \in S} \frac{\left(P_{\mu}\left(X_{t}=i\right)-\pi_{i}\right)^{2}}{\pi_{i}}
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Review of nonnegative matrix theory ${ }^{2}$
Perron-Frobenius Theorem Let $A$ be a positive $r \times r$ matrix. Then there exists an eigenvalue $\lambda_{1}>0$ with algebraic and geometric multiplicity one such that $\lambda_{1}>\left|\lambda_{j}\right|$ for any other eigenvalue $\lambda_{j}$. The eigenvector corresponding to the eigenvalue $\lambda_{1}$ is positive.

[^3] Queues, Springer

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In particular, if $A$ is stochastic then $\lambda_{1}=1$.

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In particular, if $A$ is stochastic then $\lambda_{1}=1$.
Question What is your conclusion about the transition matrix?
${ }^{2}$ Bremaud, P. (1999). Markov Chains: Gibbs Fields, Monte Carlo Simulation, and Queues, Springer

## Sampling methods

Notation Let the initial distribution $\mu$ be a one-point distribution for some $x \in S$ i.e. $p\left(X_{0}=x\right)=1$ i.e. $p\left(X_{0} \in S \backslash\{x\}\right)=0$. Then we denote

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P^{t}(x, A)=P\left(X_{t} \in A \mid X_{0}=x\right)
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Theorem Let $X_{t}, t \geq 0$ be a stationary, reversible Markov chain on the finite-state space $S$, with $\pi$ as the stationary distribution. Let $\lambda$ be the second largest (in modulus) eigenvalue of the transition matrix $P$. Then
(a) For all $t \geq 1$ and for any $i \in S$ :

$$
\sup _{A}\left|P^{t}(i, A)-\pi(A)\right| \leq \sqrt{\frac{1-\pi_{i}}{\pi_{i}}} \frac{|\lambda|^{t}}{2}
$$

## Sampling methods

(b) For all $t \geq 1$ and any $i \in S$ :

$$
\sup _{A}\left|P^{t}(i, A)-\pi(A)\right| \leq \sqrt{\frac{p_{i i}^{(2)}}{\pi_{i}}}|\lambda|^{t-1}
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where $p_{i i}^{(2)}$ is the $i$ th diagonal entry of $P^{2}$

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(c) For all $t \geq 1$ and any initial distribution $\mu$ :

$$
\chi^{2}\left(\mu^{(t)}, \pi\right) \leq|\lambda|^{2 t} \chi^{2}(\mu, \pi)
$$

## Sampling methods

(b) For all $t \geq 1$ and any $i \in S$ :

$$
\sup _{A}\left|P^{t}(i, A)-\pi(A)\right| \leq \sqrt{\frac{p_{i i}^{(2)}}{\pi_{i}}}|\lambda|^{t-1}
$$

where $p_{i i}^{(2)}$ is the $i$ th diagonal entry of $P^{2}$
(c) For all $t \geq 1$ and any initial distribution $\mu$ :

$$
\chi^{2}\left(\mu^{(t)}, \pi\right) \leq|\lambda|^{2 t} \chi^{2}(\mu, \pi)
$$

(d) For all $t \geq 1$ and any initial distribution $\mu$ :

$$
\sup _{A}\left|P_{\mu}\left(X_{t} \in A\right)-\pi(A)\right| \leq \frac{|\lambda|^{t}}{2} \sqrt{\chi^{2}(\mu, \pi)}
$$

## Sampling methods

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Eigenvalues of transition matrix corresponding to MH algo Suppose there are $k$ states. Then setting $c=1 / k$, it can be shown that: if we label the states such that $\pi_{1} \geq \pi_{2} \geq \ldots \geq \pi_{k}$ then $\lambda_{1}=1$ and

$$
\lambda_{I}=\frac{1}{k}\left[\sum_{j=I-1}^{k} \frac{\pi_{I-1}-\pi_{j}}{\pi_{I-1}}\right], I \geq 2
$$

Homework Verify the formula for small values of $k$.


[^0]:    ${ }^{1}$ Murphy, K.P., 2012. Machine learning: a probabilistic perspective. MIT press $\equiv$

[^1]:    ${ }^{1}$ Murphy, K.P., 2012. Machine learning: a probabilistic perspective. $\mathrm{MIT}_{\text {press }}$ ㄹ

[^2]:    ${ }^{2}$ Bremaud, P. (1999). Markov Chains: Gibbs Fields, Monte Carlo Simulation, and Queues, Springer

[^3]:    ${ }^{2}$ Bremaud, P. (1999). Markov Chains: Gibbs Fields, Monte Carlo Simulation, and

[^4]:    ${ }^{2}$ Bremaud, P. (1999). Markov Chains: Gibbs Fields, Monte Carlo Simulation, and Queues, Springer

